

Mink, 2004

By Daris J. Beitzel

Pennsylvania's mink ranchers produced 55,900 pelts in 2004, compared with 44,600 pelts in 2003. Pennsylvania ranked 11th in the nation in 2004 mink pelt production.

The number of females bred to produce kits for 2005 is estimated to be 15,000, up 1 percent from the previous year.

Thirty-three percent of the females bred to produce kits are of the Black color class.

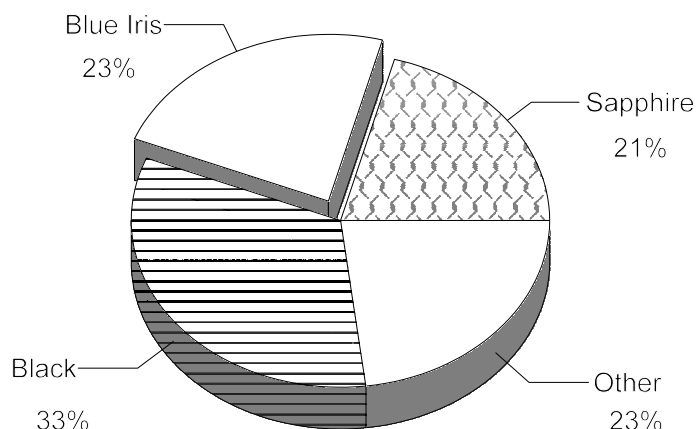
The U.S. average marketing price per pelt produced for the 2004 crop year was \$48.10, up 20 percent from the price of \$40.10 in 2003. Average prices for Pennsylvania are not available.

Pennsylvania: Mink Pelts Produced & Females Bred, By Color Class, 2002-2005

Color Class	Pelts Produced			Females Bred to Produce Kits		
	2002	2003	2004	2003	2004	2005
	<i>Number</i>					
Black	6,900 ¹	6,400 ¹	18,200 ¹	2 ¹	5,200 ¹	4,900 ¹
Demi/Wild	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pastel	1	1	1	1	1	1
Sapphire	11,100	10,500	11,700	3,600	3,200	3,400
Blue Iris	14,100 ¹	17,700 ¹	13,000 ¹	5,400 ¹	2,900 ¹	3,300 ¹
Mahogany	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pearl	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lavender	1	1	1	1	1	1
Violet	1	1	1	1	1	1
White	1	1	1	1	1	1
Misc. & Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	53,600	44,600	55,900	14,200	14,900	15,000

¹ Included in total to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Pennsylvania: Pelt Production, By Color Class, 2004



Pennsylvania: Mink Historical Perspective, 1970-2005

Year	Ranches Producing Pelts	Females Bred	Pelts Produced
	<i>Number</i>		
1970	106	58,000	159,000
1975	54	38,600	121,000
1980	47	44,500	156,600
1985	47	42,400	137,500
1990	24	27,100	95,400
1995	13	19,000	63,200
1998	11	18,300	67,500
1999	11	18,900	74,000
2000	10	18,300	68,100
2001	9	18,500	74,900
2002	8	14,600	53,600
2003	9	14,200	44,600
2004	9	14,900	55,900
2005	-	15,000	-